

Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker





Blondie • Chic Young







Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



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Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters

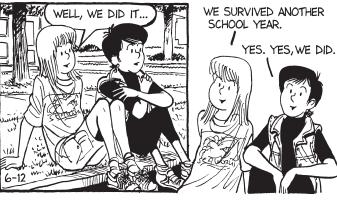




Sally Forth • Greg Howard









Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts







Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott







Heloise

Hints from Heloise

Hints help grow great lawn

Dear Readers: How does your lawn look? Here are some helpful hints for MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LAWN.

When watering the lawn, give it a good soaking. Watering for too short a time or not using enough water leads to shallow, weaker roots. Watering at night or very early in the morning is better for the lawn and your water bill, because less water will be lost to evaporation.

Before mowing, look at the lawn to check for disease. Patches that are darker, droopy, wilted, bald or brown can signal that there may be disease. Remember that some cooler-season grasses will start to brown during the hot summer months.

The lawn does go through cycles to protect it from drought and excessive heat. This is normal, and one reason that the lawn might be brown.

Sharpen your lawn-mower blades once a year; dull blades don't cut the grass well!

If you have specific questions about your lawn, contact a plant nursery, cooperative extension service or your local university's plant-pathology department. - Heloise

TRAVEL HINT

Dear Heloise: I was cutting down my travel file and discovered that many of the road maps I had didn't have a date on the front of them, especially those from hotel chains. A date would be so helpful in deciding which ones were outdated. – Sally in New Mexico

LETTER OF LAUGHTER

Dear Heloise: I worked in a veterinarian clinic for many years, and the doctor never had time to drink coffee. Then he took in a partner, and the first thing he did was buy a coffee maker, and I learned to make coffee. I don't drink it, and my husband uses instant.

After a while, the coffeepot became clogged with mineral deposits, and I decided to clean it with vinegar. Well, apparently I didn't get it rinsed out, and when the vet took a drink, he spit it out. He didn't care for my "pickled coffee"! -Joan Huddleston, Laurel, Neb.

I love vinegar, but vinegary coffee is not on my "tasty" list! Vinegar is fabulous for so many things. For lots of other money-saving, easy-tomake cleaning solutions you might want to look at, send for my six-page Fantabulous Vinegar Hints and More pamphlet. To receive a copy, just HDF XAF HX ZSTPF, "NXESB send \$5 and a long, self-addressed, stamped (61 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Vinegar, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001. For most cleaning jobs, use the cheap white or cider vinegar, and in cooking and foods, use the wine, malt and balsamic varieties. Soooo many vinegars to choose from! - Heloise

STUBBORN CORKS

Dear Heloise: Here is a hint for those stubborn, tiny corks that are used to plug up shakers for salt get pushed into the shaker so far that it's impossible to get them out. Soft, foam earplugs to the rescue! Squeeze an earplug and put it in the hole, and it will expand to fit. – H.N., via e-mail

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Bridge • Steve Becker

1. The probability of being dealt a hand containing a five-card or longer suit is:

A. 75 percent C. 55 percent B. 65 percent D. 45 percent

2. The probability of being dealt

at least one ace is:
A. 25 percent C. 60 percent B. 50 percent D. 70 percent

3. You are declarer in a notrump contract and hold A-Q-J-9 of a suit in which dummy has a low singleton. To make the contract, you must take three tricks in the suit. When you lead the singleton from dummy and the next player follows low, you should:

A. Play the nine B. Play the queen C. Play the ace

4. When you and dummy together hold 10 cards of a suit, the probability of finding the missing cards divided 2-1 is:

A. 90 percent C. 67 percent B. 78 percent D. 50 percent

Multiple Choice

1. B. A player is dealt 4-4-3-2 distribution 21.6 percent of the time; 4-3-3-3 10.5 percent of the time; 4-4-4-1 3 percent of the time. That covers about 35 percent of all deals. In the remaining deals, a player will hold at least one five-card or longer suit.

2. D. There are players who claim they never hold an ace and that this is why they always lose. Cold mathematics refutes this contention. All you have to do to silence such claims is to offer these players odds of 2-1 per deal that they will be dealt at least one ace. If you find any takers (lucky you), you'll have even better odds in your favor than most gambling casinos!

3. A. Oddly enough, the nine is the right play. It will yield three tricks in the suit in about 52 percent of all deals, while playing the queen or ace will succeed less than half the time. You therefore follow the odds and play the nine. 4. B. This knowledge would come in handy

if, for example, you were considering bidding a grand slam and your only possible loser was in trumps, where you knew you held 10 cards in the combined hands missing the queen or queen-jack. In general, you should bid a grand slam when the odds are at least 2-1 in your favor. In the given case, therefore, you would undertake the grand slam because the odds are more than 3-to-1 in your favor.

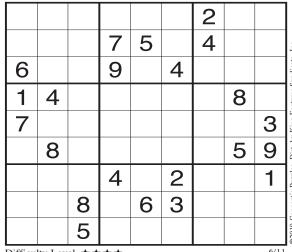
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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"Mommy, if you don't wanna bake a cake, I'd be OK with a pie instead.'

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a num-

ber, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral.

The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

9	3	1	4	7	6	5	2	8
2	4	6	8	5	9	3	7	1
5	7	8	1	3	2	4	6	9
4	9	3	7	2	8	1	5	6
1	2	5	9	6	3	7	8	4
8	6	7	5	1	4	9	3	2
6	5	4	3	8	1	2	9	7
7	8	9	2	4	5	6	1	3
3	1	2	6	9	7	8	4	5
Difficulty Level ***								

Cryptoquip

NDFA RXPFZXBO RTOR "U'P

IFKFI HDTH OXE

RHTHFPFAH TR T KTESH SUAF? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMEONE IS URGED TO PLAY A TWO-OF-A-KIND IN A POKER and pepper. Often the corks dry up and shrink or GAME, WOULD YOU SAY IT'S PAIR PRESSURE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals M

4 Turkish

25 Coop

hend

50 Yule quaff

51 Ostrich's

cousin

49 Rage

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

41 Crooned

ACROSS

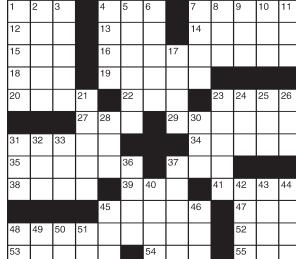
35 Onions'

37 First lady

38 Prong

39 Fuss

1 Type	45 "All My title	occupant
measures	Children" 5 Form	io- 26 Leary's
4 Corroded	role sa's	other drug
7 Went	47 Hide-hair name	e 28 Tiny
sledding,	link 6 Berg	en or 30 Cleric's
maybe	48 Cat's stat Buch	anan title
12 Cowboy's	52 G-man's 7 Hay	(Abbr.)
sweetie	org. stora	ge 31 Perfor-
13 Peregri-	53 Scent area	mance
nate	54 Indivisible 8 9mm	32 — Beta
14 Ultraviolet	55 Poorly subn	na- Kappa
filter	56 Started chine	gun 33 Wrestling
15 Serengeti	57 Afternoon 9 Head	
critter	social of st.	36 Rani's
16 Congratu-		
lates with	preceder dir.	37 Of a
a slap	11 — M	oines Tertiary
18 Novelist	DOWN 17 Wast	
Radcliffe	1 Actress no til	ne 40 Duffer's
19 Anticipate	Samantha 21 Figur	e digging
20 Tatters	2 Food from out	42 Not suited
22 Exist	heaven 23 Thin	(for)
23 Willy	3 Threw, in coins	43 Aristo-
Wonka's	a way 24 Rd.	cratic
creator	·	44 Barbecue
27 Have	Solution time: 25 mi	ns. surface
29 Fairway	G A P S W I M R A	TVIE 45 Verve
shots	EGO CIDE EM	I R 46 On an
31 Isaac	MOLEHILL AM	
Newton's		w s liner,
inspiration		HA maybe
34 Fix a text	LETS PRO RO	



Yesterday's answer 6-11